

Pottstown Health & Wellness Foundation Inspires Health Improvement and Strong Community for 15 Years

In July 2003, The Pottstown Area Health & Wellness Foundation set out to improve the health and wellness of Pottstown-area residents with grants to schools, parks, and networks, as well as funding to improve health access and support non-profits. Fifteen years later, the Foundation has awarded \$38.5 million to almost 200 grantees in the community, helping to inspire countless area residents to enthusiastically embrace a healthier lifestyle and build strong communities.

Accomplishments from grant making include the grand opening of Community Health & Dental Care along with its co-location with Creative Health Services, the Circuit Rider program, Walk/Bike Pottstown, Pottstown Early Action for Kindergarten Readiness (PEAK), TriCounty Health Council, and TriCounty Community Network, to name a few.

At 15 years, the Foundation recognizes the necessary partnership that empowers them to fulfill their mission. President Dave Kraybill says, "We're so privileged to work with local wellness organizations, nonprofits, schools, parks and more. The health and wellness impact we're making is powered by our grantees and partner organizations. And each year, we build more connections among them all as we grow and expand collectively. That's how we fit together."

The Foundation also has its own initiatives to inspire, educate and motivate community members and leaders. The annual Healthy Bodies Healthy Minds Institute trains local educators about research and best practices that support a culture of wellness in schools. Additionally, the Foundation promotes cultures of good health in the community through the annual Home Garden Contest.

A healthy Pottstown benefits everyone—from community members to business owners—by making it a better place to live, work and play. A video honoring the Foundation's 15 years can be viewed at bit.ly/2UmMLK9.





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